

SPIRITUALITY, MEANING AND SENSE
OF WELL-BEING FOR PATIENTS
WITH TERMINAL ILLNESS
RESEARCH PROPOSAL
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BY
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ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: Spirituality, Meaning of Life and Sense of Well-being in
Terminally Ill Patients

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Individuals with terminal illnesses have an increased need for spiritual care. It has been found that well-being and spirituality have a positive relationship to physical responses to illness can impact an individual's sense of well-being (Meraviglia, 2004). The purpose of this predictive study is to examine relationships among spirituality, meaning of life and prayer and a sense of well-being of physical and psychological responses after a diagnosis of a terminal illness. This study is a modified replication of Meraviglia's (2004) study. Frankl's Motivational Theory of Meaning is the framework. A sample will be 50 terminally ill patients recruited from two oncology/hematology physicians' offices in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The four instruments are: Life Attitude Profile-Revised (patients' meaning, purpose in life and motivation to find meaning), the Adapted Prayer Scale (types of prayer activity, prayer experiences, and attitudes toward prayer), Index of Well-Being (psychological well-being) and Symptom Distress Scale (degree of discomfort). Findings will provide information regarding spiritual care needs of terminally ill patients.

References for Abstract

Meraviglia, M. G. (2004). The effects of spirituality on well-being of people with lung cancer. *Oncology Nursing Forum*, 31 (1), 89-94.